

Minutes
General Education Committee
February 9, 2006

Present: Tom Weaver; Dan Milsky; William Sieger; Bonnie Chauncey Guest: John Parker Advisory: Angeles Eames; Roger Gilman; Shelley Bannister; Edmund Hansen; Mary Hay Verne

Response to New Course Proposal

After calling the meeting to order, acting chair Tom Weaver presented a draft of a response to a proposal for an additional GenEd course, Latin/Latin American Studies. In the ensuing discussion, inconsistency was noted in the proposal: the assessment area mentions essays not assigned or described in the syllabus. It was mentioned that departmental support for the Latin/ Latin American Studies course can be assumed as the course has been offered and staffed several times.

It was observed that it is a long-range goal of the GenEd Committee to develop specific criteria that align with the stated goals of the GenEd Program for evaluating new courses. However, this task should follow the revision of the goals themselves, which will be in process as the 2-year assessment plan is carried through. For the present, the committee will have to use the present goals as guidelines.

Suggested revisions to the draft response were made with the present goals in mind, and it was decided that Edmund Hansen and Tom Weaver will work out the final wording. The document will be sent to Victor Ortiz, who will be invited to attend the next meeting of the GenEd Committee on Feb. 23, 2006, 11:30-1:30 in C, 5th fl. Conference room, to discuss revisions to the new course proposal. At Tom Weaver's suggestion, Mary Verne agreed to forward copies of the proposal to all members before the next meeting.

Changes in the General Education Program

Roger Gilman brought forward a memo to the University Faculty Academic Affairs Committee outlining our recommendations for changes in the General Education Program. Final changes were unanimously agreed upon. Roger Gilman will process the final copy of the memo and will send it to Harry Hild, FCAA chair. The document must be passed by FCAA and be given to the Provost for approval by February 17, 2006. It was noted that in further meetings, the GenEd committee needs to decide whether AP credit applies as fulfilling GenEd requirements as this must be consistent across all disciplines.

General Education Assessment

The GenEd committee needs to plan additional assessments to align with the remaining GenEd goals. After some discussion, Angeles Eames proposed that we take up the goal directed toward proficiency in oral communication. A subcommittee was proposed to assist in designing the assessment: John Parker and Edmund Hansen volunteered to coordinate. Suggested members were David Unumb, Nanette Pottee, Susan Colon, Cyndi Moran, and Harry Hild. Edmund Hansen will convene the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Chauncey, Vice Chair/Secretary